

From: Honorland@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/24/01 12:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The proposed settlement appears to be no more than a slap on the wrist. It does nothing to punish Microsoft for past transgressions, and does not stop them from such transgressions in the future. The proposed oversight committee does not have sufficient power to enforce corrective actions, nor is it free of Microsoft patronage. The oversight committee should not be funded by Microsoft, but rather from government sources. The members should be appointed by an independent body.

In addition to those concerns, there is real concern about the effect of this settlement on the so-called 'Open Source' software development, such as Linux. Microsoft is not prevented from circumventing the development of this major alternative to Microsoft products. The Linux development poses a real threat to Microsoft, and Microsoft should not be able to adversely affect such development.

Respectfully,

Howard O. Norland
6212 Buchanan St.,
Fort Collins, CO 80525